

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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Salvation According to John the Baptist Victory Through Weakness

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" — John 3:36.

BY EVANGELIST JOHN R. RICE

(Sermon preached Friday, May 14, 1943 over WJJD, Chicago, at Chicago Christian Business Men's Broadcast. Mechanically recorded for *The Sword of The Lord*).

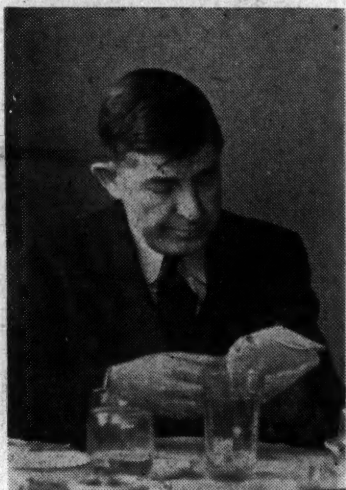
I am going to read to you one verse of Scripture and it is John 3:36. That is in the famous chapter where Jesus said to Nicodemus, "Ye must be born again." This is in the famous chapter where Jesus said, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Now let's read John 3:36.

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: (not shall have, not will have, but has it now) — "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him).

I. John the Baptist Taught Salvation By Simple Faith Just As Christ Did.

Listen very carefully. There are several important lessons in this great verse of Scripture. The first lesson to which I call your attention, and I think this is remarkable here, is that John the Baptist had the same plan of salvation as Jesus and Paul, and the same plan as the Old Testament prophets, the same plan taught everywhere in the Bible. Some people have an idea that John the Baptist got people saved by baptizing them. Some people have an idea Old Testament prophets got

people saved by bringing offerings of animal sacrifices. You are all wet, brother. No, there is just one plan of salvation in the Bible. There never was any other, there never will be any other. And here it is. These words I read you are the words of John the Baptist as quoted by the apostle John. We read in verse 25, "Then there arose a question between some of John's disciples and the Jews about purifying. And they came unto John, and said unto him, Rabbi," and he answered (vs. 17), — "John answered and said," and all the rest of that passage are the words of John the Baptist. John the Baptist baptized just as Jesus did. He preached repentance just as Jesus did. But he preached also, believe just as Jesus did. And here the word of God says, quoting the words of John the Baptist, the forerunner of Jesus, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life." That is the same plan that Jesus preached in the same chapter when He said in John 3:18,



SNAPSHOT OF THE EDITOR

"He that believeth on him is not condemned; but he that believeth not is condemned already." It is the same plan He had in John 3:14, and 15, "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up; that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life." It is the same plan as John 3:16 where He changed the wording slightly and said, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." So here is the simple plan of salvation by a committal and trust and dependence on Jesus Christ Who died for sinners.

That is the simple plan that Paul preached, too. You remember in Acts, chapter 13 where he and Barnabas came to Antioch in Pisidia and in the synagogue they said, "Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins; and by him all that believe are justified from all things." (That is a strange, simple message when you put your trust in Jesus Christ you are saved through Him).

That is the simple teaching on salvation that is taught throughout the Old Testament. That is what Peter said to Cornelius and his household in Acts 10:43, "To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins." Every prophet in the Old Testament and every apostle in the New Testament taught the same plan of salvation, that when you put your trust in Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven. Now that is wonderful teaching here! John the Baptist joined with Jesus and with Paul the apostle and with Peter and with the Old Testament prophets in saying this, that whoever anywhere wants his sins forgiven, he needs only to come to Jesus Christ and depend upon Him, the crucified Saviour. When you believe in Him, depend upon Him, when you risk Him, when you commit yourself to Him to save you, you are saved and have forgiveness and everlasting life! That is wonderful!

(Continued on page four)

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"Though he was crucified through weakness, yet he liveth by the power of God" — II Cor. 13:4.

BY H. H. SAVAGE, D. D.

Pastor First Baptist Church, Pontiac, Michigan

(Sermon preached Sunday morning, May 30, 1943)

The greatest failure in the history of the world from the standpoint of materialistic philosophy, was the death of Jesus. Here was a man Who had raised the dead; given sight to the blind; hearing to the deaf; and food to the hungry. He had spoken words of peace to the tumultuous sea, and the winds and the waves had obeyed His will. Demons had trembled in His presence. But suddenly His power seemed to be of no avail. Mere men had laid hold upon Him; had beaten Him, and scoffed at Him, and crucified Him; and He had died. No wonder the unbelieving disciples were crushed and hopeless and filled with utter despair. The Powerful One had become powerless; the Mighty One had become weak; the Eternal One had ceased His existence, and was dead. What a tragedy!

The answer to this seeming colossal failure is found in the first part of the fourth verse of the last chapter of Second Corinthians. "He was crucified through weakness, yet He liveth by the power of God." Love sent Him to Calvary, before power placed Him upon the throne of eternity.

Nations who defy God say hate is strong, but love is weak; the sword is strong, but the palm branch is weak; dogs of war are strong, but the dove of peace is weak; self assertion is strong, but self sacrifice is weak. Jesus refused to use the infinite resources of the Kingdom of God for His protection and as a result He became weak, and allowed Himself to be taken to the cross. The philosophy of the world looks at the cross and says, "Ridiculous!" The Greeks of Jesus' day looked upon the cross and said, "Foolishness!" The pagans at the foot of the cross said, "If Thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross!" but eternity says, "The power of God unto salvation."

Many are trying to tell us today that to be a good soldier, we must hate the enemy. God's word, however, tells us to love our enemies. Can a man be a good soldier without hating the enemy? I, personally, feel that this philosophy of hate is tremendously dangerous. I understand that Harvey Firestone in addressing the last graduating class of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, called attention to the tremendous job the F. B. I. would have after the war in dealing with men who had been taught to hate; taught to have a low valuation of human life; taught that killing is a virtue.

Certainly the greatest Commander in Chief that the United States Army ever had was Abraham Lincoln. But throughout the dark days of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln never belittled him-



DR. H. H. SAVAGE

self low enough to hate the enemy. And in the midst of that bloody conflict he came out clearly with a statement of purpose that would be well to remember today, "With malice toward none."

Weak? Of course it was! The cartoonists of his day pictured him in the most ludicrous forms imaginable. History, however, reveals his greatness and his wisdom, AND HE PRESERVED THE UNION. Don't tell me that Abraham Lincoln was not a good soldier, and the greatest blow that ever befell the Southern Confederacy was not the surrender of Lee to Grant, but was the murder of the one who would have proved to have been

(Continued on page four)

Fairest Lord Jesus

Fairest Lord Jesus! Ruler of all Nature!

O, Thou of God and man the Son!

Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,

Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown!

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,

Robed in the blooming garb of spring;

Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,

Who makes the woeful heart to sing!

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,

And all the twinkling, starry host;

Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer

Than all the angels heaven can boast!

— Crusader's Hymn

Fearful, Fretful or Fruitful

BY REV. BILL YOUNG

Radio Pastor, Greensboro, N. C.

This message is a bit off the beaten track. However, I believe it will cover a neglected field. I want you to consider three words with me. They all begin with the letter "F" and end with the suffix, "ful."

I. FEARFUL OR FULL OF FEAR

There are two meanings for the word fear. In Eccles. 5:7 we are told to "Fear thou God." This certainly does not mean that we are to be afraid of God. It means we are to reverence Him and hold Him in awe.

Every woman who truly loves her husband fears him. The truth is brought out in the expression of so many wives when they say, "I am afraid he won't like my meal." In other words, she is afraid she won't please him and in that sense she fears her husband. To fear God means to use extreme caution to please Him in every detail.

The other meaning of the word fear is to dread, mistrust, anxiety. It is a dreaded enemy and Satan uses it oftentimes to paralyze the power of the Christian. It is this meaning of this word "fear" that we want to consider briefly.

1. The Fear of Persecution.

There are some people who seem to have a persecution complex. They hesitate to become Christians because of fear of what people will say. It seems they would rather go thru life rejecting Christ and then die and go to Hell rather than face a little ridicule from the devil's crowd. I like the spirit of

that derelict who drifted in to a city mission one dark night. When the invitation was given he went forward and fell into the open

(Continued on page two)



REV. BILL YOUNG

Fearful, Fretful or Fruitful

(Continued from page one)

arms of the Son of God. He was gloriously saved. The old gang that he used to run with heard about it. The first time they met him after his conversion they started scoffing and mocking him with sarcasm. One of them spoke up and said, "So you become a mission stiff, eh?" He stood his ground and gave a glowing testimony of the satisfying grace of God. Once again the ringleader tried to humiliate and embarrass him by saying, "Don't you know if you swallow that mission stuff about religion the whole world will be agin' ya?" The converted bum pulled himself together, stuck out his chest and said with a determined voice, "Then I am agin' the whole world." That is not good phraseology, but it is mighty good theology.

Oftimes Christians are thwarted in their efforts for the Master because of their fear of persecution. Some of the unhappiest people I have met are those who were not obedient to the Heavenly vision simply because they feared the opinions of their loved ones rather than the will of God. I know a young man personally who told me he was called of God to give his life to the Lord for full-time ministerial work. But his mother objected strenuously. She made it most miserable for him and did everything in her power to keep him from Christian work. She wanted him to make good in the music world, to gain popularity and fame. He turned his back upon the call of God and today he is unhappy and most miserable. A few months after his mother had succeeded in her unholy mission, she was taken out of this world.

There is someone who needs this message. If you are unsaved or if you are a Christian out of the will of God because of fear of persecution, I have a guaranteed remedy to offer you. It is found in Heb. 13:6, "So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I shall not fear what man shall do unto me."

2. Fear of Failure

The devil has some people so bluffed, they are defeated before they ever start. There are some tremendous tasks before us. We have a big job to do. The devil is busy injecting the virus of fear into many. But remember God is bigger than the devil. To be an "overcomer" (I John 5:4,5), "More than conqueror" (Romans 8:37), always led on "in triumph" (II Cor. 2:14) is the privilege of the Christian. We have victory over sin by grace. Romans 6:14-15, "For sin shall not have dominion over you; for ye are not under law, but under grace. What then? shall we sin, because we are not under law, but under grace? God forbid. We have victory over Satan by the Word. I John 2:14, "I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, AND THE WORD OF GOD ABIDETH IN YOU, AND YE HAVE OVERCOME THE WICKED ONE." And then we have victory over the world by faith. I John 5:4, "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith."

To fear failure is to admit a lack of confidence in the leader. To the child of God who has a duty to perform, a vision to be realized or a battle to be fought but hesitates because of doubt as to the outcome, let me give you a verse of Scripture that ought to shatter forever the fear that Satan uses to

check progress. It is found in I Chronicles 28:20, "And David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and of good courage and do it; fear not, nor be dismayed: for the Lord God, even my God, will be with thee: he will not fail thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the Lord."

3. Fear of Famine.

In a land of plenty we have countless thousands who are worrying about famine. I spoke to a man the other day who was in great distress. He was worried about post-war conditions: what would his family do? suppose we had another depression? These questions were occupying his mind. He didn't know the secret of "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee."

I have read somewhere about George Muller, the founder of the famous Bristol orphanage, who was relating to a friend some of the difficulties with which he had to contend in providing the orphans with food, day by day, and when he had finished, his friend said to him, "You seem to live from hand to mouth!" "Yes," replied Muller, "It is my mouth, but God's hand."

We have a wonderful Father. He knows our every need and promises to supply it. It is sad to see so many people who have not learned the lesson of simple trusting. I can say from experience that the Lord is always there at the crises. When he tests, you trust. He never fails. I believe the Psalmist can erase the fear of want with the words found in Psalm 37:25, "I have been young, and now am old; Yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread."

Fear of Death.

Psalm 23:4 "Yea though I walk through the Valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." The Psalmist was not afraid of death because he had the comforting presence of the eternal Christ.

The apostle Paul also explains why he does not have the fear of dying. He says, "For to me to live is Christ, AND TO DIE IS GAIN." Phil. 1:21. Again he says, "For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a DESIRE TO DEPART, AND BE WITH CHRIST: WHICH IS FAR BETTER."

4. Imaginary Fears

There is an old adage which says, "Don't cross any bridges until you come to them." I sincerely believe that the things people worry most about never happen. But Satan knows if he can get people to worry about the possibility of things happening, he is robbing them of devotion to God, prayer and Bible study. Their imagination runs away with them. Paul mentions something about that in Romans 1:21 "Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations and their foolish heart was darkened."

I remember a little incident that took place a number of years ago that typifies a great many of God's children. A neighbor girl ran screaming into the house calling for her mother. The mother took her up in her arms and after quieting her somewhat she inquired as to what all the excitement was about. The child said, "There was a bee out there." The mother asked the child if it had stung her. She replied, "No, but it mighta." There are some people who seem to manufacture trouble. What they don't know, they imagine.

Remedy.

If you make peace with God, you will have the peace of God. All fear will banish when implicit faith is place in Him, His will and His leadership. The three Hebrews in the fiery furnace and Daniel in the lions den proved this.

Patent medicine remedies and quacks can't cure the fears of the human heart. But thanks be unto God for a sure remedy prescribed by a Physician who never lost a case and recorded in a Book that has proven to be infallible. Heart-aches, burdens, problems, worries, care, fear-what to do with them? Turn to I Peter 5:6-7 and read it. Then re-read it. Meditate, memorize, and digest it. "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty

hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time. CASTING ALL YOUR CARE (anxiety) UPON HIM; FOR HE CARETH FOR YOU."

Please note another verse in Phil. 4:6, "Be CAREFUL FOR NOTHING (in nothing be anxious) BUT IN EVERYTHING BY PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION WITH THANKSGIVING let your request be made known unto God." That is a literal command just as much as any other command in the Word, "Be careful for nothing."

But someone says, "You don't understand preacher. I have a boy on high seas and naturally I worry about him." Well let us check it again. Does it say, "Be careful for nothing except if you have a boy on the high seas?" No. No! It says, "Be careful for NOTHING."

Someone else says, "That verse isn't for me because for years I have been physically afflicted. I suffer intensely. I have so much trouble so naturally I have many burdens and cares." Perhaps we better double check this verse. Does it say, "Be careful for nothing except those in pain?" No, a thousand times no. It explicitly says, "BE CAREFUL FOR NOTHING."

Let us tenderly approach a very delicate situation. A broken hearted mother comes to me and says, "Preacher, your sermon on, 'Be careful or anxious for nothing' cannot refer to my case. I kissed my boy goodbye a few months ago and he sailed for the battlefield in a distant land across the sea. He was killed in action." Oh, but it does refer to this case or any similar case. And then with choking sobs she continues, "But preacher he wasn't saved. How could I be free from anxiety." I say to that mother or other mothers who might have the same heavy burden that the godly Christian mother need not be anxious about anything. God said it and that is what he meant. Listen to me. There are no atheists in the fox holes of Bataan. I sincerely believe that many a mother's prayer is answered on the battlefield.

I believe there will be multiplied thousands of boys in Heaven who were unsaved when they left home for the war. When they came face to face with eternity they had time to think. They got down to business with the Lord. And we ought to pray earnestly for the Chaplains, and for men like Bro. John Rice, who supplies thousands of free booklets which makes the way of Life clear. There are other Christian organizations all over America who are doing their utmost to win these boys thru various methods. In our radio work I have personally sent over 1000 letters to the mothers' sons who hear our radio programs over the "Rise and Shine" network. Four boys have written us that thru this means the plan of salvation was made clear and that they had taken Christ as their Lord and Saviour. So mothers I know the Lord would not turn down your earnest, sincere plea to save your son. Some of you may not know of it until we reach the eternal shore of glory, in the meantime. "Be careful for nothing."

II. FRETFUL

Fear is not the only detriment or hindrance to the ministry of a Christian. Fretfulness is another toxic poison which impedes spiritual progress and happiness. The word 'fretful' means irritable, vexed or angry.

Fretful people carry chips around on their shoulders. They major in the 'she-didn't-speak-to-me-so-I-won't-speak-to-her' attitude. They are the very best customers of a certain, very popular brand of pills well advertised. Their personalities are jaundiced. They certainly are not a good sample of a bright, cheerful, radiant Christian. They have the corners of their mouth turned down as if to say, "Excuse me for living." One preacher put it a bit more pointed. He said "they look as if they had been baptized in vinegar."

The Lord knew this trouble would be prevalent. We have a number of warnings in the Scriptures against it.

Psa. 37:1 "FRET NOT THYSELF because of evil doers."

Phil. 2:14, "Do all things without murmurings and disputings."

John 6:43 "Jesus therefore answered and said unto them, Murmur not among yourselves."

189 Children, 57 Convicts, 9 Others Claim Christ In Signed Decisions Through Booklet in May

In Chattanooga, Tennessee, thousands of copies of the booklet, *What Must I Do to be Saved?* were given to the students in public schools. Mrs. R. D. Hazlett, one of the Bible teachers in the public schools, has sent us the signed decisions, claiming Christ as Saviour, from 94 and then later from 95 other high school children. This decision blank was cut from the booklet, *What Must I Do to be Saved?* and sent along in each case. The children carefully gave names and addresses and the work is being followed up by these fine Bible teachers. It pays to get this booklet into the hands of school children as these 189 decisions in one city, reported in one month alone, testify. Certainly much of the effectiveness of this gospel message depended on the faithful teaching and soul winning of these Bible teachers.

To those who worry, fear or fret, I would like to quote the words of a bright, cheery little chorus that has been used of the Lord. Cheer up ye saints of God, There's nothing to worry about, Nothing to make you feel afraid, Nothing to make you doubt. Remember Jesus Never Fails. So why not trust Him and shout? You'll be sorry you worried at all tomorrow morning.

An excellent antidote for fear and fretfulness is action. I know of no better suggestion than the next word we want to consider.

III. FRUITFUL

In II Cor. 4:3 there is a challenge that ought to stir every heart. "But if our Gospel is hid, it is hid to them that are lost." It is the responsibility of every child of God to see to it that this Gospel is not hid from the lost because of carelessness, indifference, ignorance, laziness or any other reason. Every Christian can and should be a soul winner. So many people have the idea that all spiritual propagation is up to the pastor, missionary or evangelist. That is absolutely wrong. If I understand the Scripture correctly it is the sheep that brings forth the increase not the shepherd. If you are one of God's sheep it is up to you to win others to Him, regardless of what your vocation in life might be. The Scripture makes it unmistakably clear that the Lord wants fruitful Christians.

"I am the vine, and my Father is the husbandman."

"Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away; and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit."

"Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you."

"Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me."

"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."

"If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned."

"If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you."

"HEREIN IS MY FATHER GLORIFIED, THAT YE BEAR MUCH FRUIT; SO SHALL YE BE MY DISCIPLES." John 15:1-8.

The Master went into detail about this question of the vine, branches and fruit. There is no chance for a misunderstanding of the subject. A person cannot be a happy Christian unless they are soul winners. In fact the Lord Jesus explains in the 11th verse of this same chapter why he went into a detailed discussion of this important matter. He says, "These things have I spoken unto you that my joy might remain in you, and that YOUR JOY MIGHT BE FULL." If you are unconcerned, cold, burdenless and with no passion for a lost world, there is something radically wrong in your spiritual life. The Christian is the

From the Penitentiary System of Texas where regularly the booklet, *What Must I Do to be Saved?* is given to every incoming convict who will take it, we had reported in May 57 conversions through these booklets in connection with some wonderfully fine personal soul winning within the walls.

Nine other letters came from various parts of the nation, telling of souls saved through *What Must I Do to be Saved?* and one decision came through the booklet, *Religious but Lost*.

A Woman Drunkard Writes.

From Beaumont, Texas, comes a pitiful letter with the signed statement from the little pamphlet, *Religious but Lost*. We will not give this woman's name without her consent. Her letter of May 28th says:

"Dear Rev. Rice:

"I am a woman thirty-one years old and never joined the church in my life and I am a mother of one child. He is a boy fifteen years old and a good boy but I am trying to keep him from being in the fix I have been in all my life. I have been hard of hearing ever since I was fifteen years old, so the other day I was drunk and a man saved my life, so I ask you to write me and tell me how can my life be saved. Truly I believe in the Lord."

The decision she signed said,

"This day I confess myself a guilty sinner. I throw away all my hopes that self-righteousness or church membership or religious ceremonies can save me. From today on I will trust wholly in Jesus Christ. I depend upon Him to forgive my sins, to change my heart, to give me everlasting life. I here and now receive Him into my heart and claim Him as my Saviour."

(Continued on page three)

middle-man between God and the world. We are the agents for this Gospel. The Lord Jesus has absolutely no other way for lost souls to know about the saving grace of His atoning death other than through the channel of redeemed souls. God forbid that we fail in this tremendous responsibility.

A missionary tells the story of another medical missionary who posted a large sign in a very conspicuous spot at the market place which was frequented by many natives. It was the center of activity in that little heathen village. The sign read, "I will treat without cost any leper who comes to my office." One day a leper on the edge of that crowd spied the sign. He managed to get to it and it wasn't long until he was on his way to the Doctor's office with the sign under his arm. He took the sign along for confirmation. The medical missionary treated him not only for leprosy of the body but also for the leprosy of his soul. He presented the Gospel of Christ to that poor soul in darkness. After a brief visit the native started to leave carrying the sign with him. The Doctor missionary stopped him and asked, "What are you going to do with that sign?" The native promptly replied, "I am going to hang it back in the market place so that some other leper can be helped."

Have you been to Jesus for the cleansing power? If so what are you doing about letting others know of his wonderful salvation? God grant that every Christian will place their testimony on exhibition.

Are you fearful?

Are you fretful?

Why not be fruitful?

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THE SWORD OF THE LORD

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EVANGELIST JOHN R. RICE
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III. WIVES TO SUBMIT THEMSELVES TO, BE SUBJECT TO, OBE-DIENT TO THEIR HUSBANDS. Gives a thorough review of Bible commands concerning the duty of wives to husbands. In appealing and considerate language the author shows God's plan for happiness and success for the woman in the home.

IV. WOMEN PREACHERS FORBIDDEN IN BIBLE. Shows how God forbids women to teach or preach or have any place of official authority over men in the churches, even as in the homes; that in the Bible there were no women pastors, evangelists or apostles; that prophetesses never preached nor taught mixed groups. Shows legitimate plan for women in soul winning and in the Lord's work which will result in the most good done and God's approval.

V. BOBBED HAIR, THE SIGN OF A WOMAN'S REBELLION AGAINST HUSBAND, FATHER, AND GOD. Shows that a woman's long hair is given her for a covering or veil to symbolize her submission to her husband or father, taking a woman's legitimate place; bobbed hair means rebellion against God's authority; how bobbed hair may tempt angels, weaken home ties, lowers women from her God-given place.

VI. THE HORRIBLE SIN OF REBELLION. An appeal for whole-hearted surrender to the will of God by every Christian; calls for sinners to surrender to Christ and be saved. Has decision slip.

THEY SAY—

DR. R. L. MOYER, dean of Northwestern Bible Training School, Minneapolis: "Just received 'Bobbed Hair, Bossy Wives, and Women Preachers.' I say amen. Thanks."

DR. J. R. MANTLEY, department of New Testament, Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, Chicago: "I warmly appreciate your sending me a copy of your new book. I have mentioned the book and your viewpoint to my class in New Testament and agreed with you that the New Testament teaches what you say it does. We need more emphasis on the teachings of the new Testament than they are getting."

DR. HERMAN A. HOYT, department of New Testament and Greek, Grace Theological Seminary, Winona Lake, Indiana: "We have placed it in the library and regard its content as consistent with the Word of God, and worth the while of every one of our students knowing its truth."

OHIO INDEPENDENT BAPTIST: "Every position taken by this eminent Bible teacher is well supported by quotations from the Word, and leaves the Bible believer of one opinion only and standing on safe ground. . . . This is destined to be one of the Best Sellers among books for Bible believers."

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN BEACON: "This book will answer the many questions which some Christian women have been asking, and all Christian women should face honestly—questions about their duty to their husbands, their place in the work of God, and why God commands Christian women to have long hair, and calls it their crown of glory."

Many other favorable reviews, hundreds of letters.

LIFE-CHANGING BLESSINGS FROM THIS BOOK

From Kansas a woman wrote March 17, 1942, telling how she was wonderfully saved through reading this book, *Bobbed Hair, Bossy Wives, and Women Preachers*.

A woman in Tennessee, a minister's wife, wrote March 9, saying, "Up till March 8 of this year I have been a rebellious wife, but with God's help I won't be any more."

Another woman writes, "Oh, if I had read one of those books when I was married I sure could have saved lots of heartache and trouble!"

From Illinois, April 9 a young woman writes, "Five years ago I thought the Lord called me to be an evangelist. . . . then after reading your book *Bobbed Hair, Bossy Wives, and Women Preachers* I see that I misinterpreted the leading of the Holy Spirit. He just wanted a full surrender of my life. I guess I was trying to run away from God, and now I have a sweet peace that I didn't have before. So I can thank God for you and your little book."

Ninety-one pages, thick book paper, six chapters, illustrated by three pictures of the author's wife and six daughters, showing attractive hair. Bound in royal blue cloth, stamped in gold, goldenrod jacket, pictured in blue ink, price postpaid only.....**50c**

(5 copies for \$2.00).

ORDER FROM

SWORD OF THE LORD PUBLISHERS
145 NORTH HALE ST., WHEATON, ILLINOIS

Many Saved Through Booklet in May

(Continued from page two)

We feel that she has honestly trusted Christ and further light and encouragement has been given in a personal letter. Will you pray for her?

A Chaplain Writes for Booklets

From Camp Robinson, Arkansas, our friend and brother, Chaplain Maurice M. Hall, 1st Lt. writes as follows:

"Dear Sir:

"The fine tract which your publishing company writes, entitled *What Must I Do to Be Saved?* was given a fine recommendation by one of our chaplains on this post, (Camp Jos. T. Robinson), Chaplain A. E. Roberts.

"I am the chaplain of the thirteenth regiment, Chaplain Maurice M. Hall, and I would appreciate so much your sending me as many of these tracts as you possibly could afford.

"I do so want to send fine literature to the boys and to the parents of the boys in the Army of the United States. Again thanking you for your consideration of my request, I am

"Sincerely"

(Signed) Maurice M. Hall.

We sent Chaplain Hall 5,000 copies of the booklet and promised to send more just as soon as he tells us they are needed. We pray that many soldiers may be saved by this booklet.

Soldier in North Africa Renews Subscription; Says "I Need The Sword of the Lord"

A precious letter comes from Corporal Harold E. Stover. We have his address c/o Postmaster, New York, but his letter is headed, "Somewhere in North Africa," and is dated April 28th. He says,

"Dear Brother Rice:

"I just received your letter of February 23, 1943, in which you were encouraging me to renew my subscription to *The Sword of the Lord*.

"I have been overseas quite some time. That is the only reason why I have not renewed my subscription. Your letter was so heart-warming that I cried as I read word after word. I need the *Sword of the Lord* for my soul winning work. I have had the joy in leading a number of young men to Christ in which four of them have given their life to God for preaching the gospel of Christ.

"Here is \$3.00. Continue to send me *The Sword of the Lord*. I need your prayers for the road at times is so hard. I long to have a Spirit-filled life like that of Spurgeon, Charles Finney, Charles Fuller and like you also. I am fervently praying for you. I am happy in the Lord and am hungering for spiritual food.

"Your friend and brother in Christ,"

(Signed) Harold E. Stover.

If you want some of the booklets, *What Must I Do to Be Saved?* (24 page pamphlet making the plan of salvation plain from the Word of God, of which over one million have been printed), and will faithfully promise to give them out only to those who promise to read them and will accompany the sermon with a personal effort to win the readers to Christ, we shall be glad to send you copies. We suggest that you write for a sample at least, if you want to pay for them, they cost us about \$1.00 a hundred, including printing and postage. If soldiers overseas wish to distribute the booklet, have your order okayed by your commanding officer or ask your chaplain to order the booklets for you. Otherwise the post office will not accept the packages for overseas shipment. Single copies are not to be sent overseas except as first class mail, in sealed letter.

Gifts on Free Gospel Booklets During May

The following have sent gifts during May, 1943, to help pay for gospel literature which we send out free, especially for the twenty-four page booklet, *What Must I Do to Be Saved?*

A friend, Northome, Minn..... \$5.00
Mr. Harold Rust, Minn..... 3.00
Maria Olsson, Neb..... 2.75
Mr. J. L. Bennett, Mo..... 10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Einer Christensen, Wisconsin..... 5.00

THE SIN OF PRAYERLESSNESS

"God forbid that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you." — I Sam. 12:23.

Prayerlessness is a horrible sin. For the lost sinner it is a part of his wicked rejection of Christ. For the child of God it is identical with backsliding. Prayerlessness is another name for unbelief. Prayerlessness is the father and partner of every vile sin, as much as the saloon is the father of drunkenness and lust is the father of adultery. There is not a vile sin in the world but that prayerlessness is a part of it and that real prayerfulness would have prevented it or cured it. Of itself prayerlessness is, I have no doubt, worse than murder, worse than adultery, worse than blasphemy. It is more fundamental. It more clearly reveals the heart. In fact, while murder, adultery and blasphemy may catch a person unaware, trapped by the carnal mind; prayerlessness is the very heart of the carnal mind itself, a state of alienation from God.

My greatest sin, and yours, is prayerlessness. My failures are all prayer-failures. The lack of souls saved in my ministry is primarily because of lack of prayer, not because of lack of preaching. The withering away of joy in my heart, sometimes, is the fruit of prayerlessness. My indecision, my lack of wisdom, my lack of guid-

ance come directly out of my prayerlessness. All the time I have fallen into sin, have failed in my duties, have been bereft of power, or disconsolate for lack of comfort, I can charge to the sin of prayerlessness. Oh! horrible sin, the lack of prayer!

What is wrong with the churches is lack of true prayer. What is wrong with the preachers is this same sin, prayerlessness. What is wrong with the pew is still that blighting sin, prayerlessness. For every sin, every failure, every lack God had a remedy and cure if we had sufficiently and effectually prayed.

It is a sin when we pray and ask amiss that we might consume it on our own lust. It is a sin when we pray without faith. And it is sad beyond expression when wrong home life, when wrongs unrighted, when unforgiveness, or rebellion or distaste for the Bible or any secret sin hinders our prayers. But the greatest prayer-sin of all is simply *not to pray!*

(From the book, *Prayer—Asking and Receiving*, by John R. Rice.)

The Kind of Missionary Speaker the Editor's Wife Likes

I think missionary speakers doing deputation work, might learn a very valuable lesson from the note that came to me yesterday from Mrs. Rice. She says:

"Dear Daddy:

"We had the best sermon this morning—a missionary, and he did not say anything about the customs of the foreign people but told how the chief sinner was saved and what mighty works God did through him; how he would begin preaching at seven at night and preach all night and win souls all night. He would go in like that for a month or two at a time. The story was so sweet."

Why should missionary speakers spend the time of people howling moving picture or slides of houses and people? Why should they spend the time talking about quaint customs, living conditions and language peculiarities? The poor work done by returned missionaries has brought the whole mission cause in disrepute. Ordinarily missionaries do not get great crowds and they do not stir the hearts of the people to soul winning, and they do not incite to sacrificial gifts because they do not have a great vision themselves and do not give the people a vision of a dying world with millions going to Hell. So it turns out that a large proportion of those doing mission work are women and missionary work simmers down to teaching a few children, running little schools, and passing out tracts to the heathen, usually instead of having profound movements of great revival, straight, sharp preaching against sin and great Christian statesmanship that influences whole nations. May God give us missionaries like Judson, like Morrison, like Hudson Taylor, like C. T. Studd, like Paton and Carey, missionaries with passion, with zeal, with vision, with tears, who can command the respect and the support of people because they set out to win multitudes for God.

In the mission cause, as in the home cause, people will not ever be greatly stirred by the quaint customs of the people, by pictures of the mission buildings and the missionaries' children. People want to hear of souls being saved, of great revivals, of answers to prayer, of people willing to die for the cause of Christ. And Christians will support that kind of a mission program when manned by Spirit-filled people who actually get people saved and carry out the great commission.

We mean this not as an unkind criticism, but as an earnest suggestion to mission boards and missionaries doing deputation work.

Mr. C. B. Swanson, Okla. (<i>What Must I Do to Be Saved?</i> to State Prison, McAlester, Okla.).....	10.00
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VICTORY THROUGH WEAKNESS

(Continued from page one)

their greatest friend, Abraham Lincoln.

Jesus wept over Jerusalem. He cried out from the cross, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Weak? Of course it was! And the cartoonists of Jesus' day drew ludicrous word pictures of Him. See them in their contemptible mirth as recorded in Matthew 27:27-30, "Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto Him the whole band of soldiers. And they stripped Him and put on Him a scarlet robe. And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon His head, and a reed in His right hand: and they bowed the knee before Him, and mocked Him saying, Hail, King of the Jews! And they spit upon Him, and took the reed, and smote Him on the head." History, however, records the ignominious death of Pilate and Herod, but the name of Jesus is such that "I am far within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that were ever built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned together, have not affected the life of a man upon earth so powerfully as has that one solitary life."

The great word describing Christ's relationship to mankind is the word "compassion." Jesus couldn't look upon a needy man or woman; a needy boy or girl; a needy city; or a needy world without being tremendously moved with compassion. True: He bitterly assailed hypocrisy, but He did it with tears in His eyes. He scathingly denounced sin, but with a voice broken with emotion. He uncompromisingly condemned the wicked to the everlasting fire of an eternal hell, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels," but within four days He was pouring out His heart's blood on the cross for those same wicked ones.

I always shudder when I hear of a church split; so many of them are so uncalled for, and so needless; so many times the world looks on and wonders what it is all about. But there are times when a division may be absolutely essential. When such a time comes, however, there ought to be a lot of weeping and broken-hearted experiences. If hatred is present, and a "holier-than-thou" atmosphere, and a spirit that seems to say, "We'll show you whom God Almighty is going to bless," then, that kind of a split is of the devil, no matter how plausible the arguments for it may seem to be.

"Crucified through weakness?" Yes, that's true; but that weakness provided the opportunity for revealing the most limitless grace and the most meritorious pardon. It also established the foundation for the most terrible judgment and the most complete retribution and vengeance. Why? Because there is some excuse for rebelling against bigotry, against cruelty, and against hardness. If God were a god according to the pattern of the gods of wrath of the heathen, then rebellion against Him could be excused. But only the eternally depraved, the helplessly reprobate, and the unconditionally hopeless can blatantly, selfishly, cowardly, and willfully reject love.

The only just judgment that can ever be rendered anywhere at any time, must be rendered in an atmosphere of love rather than of hate. No angry parent has any right to punish a child, for such punishment is not for the welfare of the child; it is merely an outlet for the anger of an irate parent. Real love must punish, it is only slushy sentimentality that refuses to deal with sin as it deserves to be dealt with. The training that mean the most to me as a boy was not the angry reprimands of my father; but when my mother used to punish me with tears in her eyes, it nearly broke my heart. Thank God for the tears of a parent who believes that justice and mercy can meet on the proper part of a needy boy's anatomy.

This country as a nation has never officially "hated" any other nation. God forbid that we should now. The north did not hate the south during the Civil War. That didn't keep the north from successfully facing the needs of that day. We didn't hate Spain during the Spanish-American War; we simply could not stand by and see the war lords of that day crushing defenceless Cuba, so we freed Cuba, but we made no attempt to crush Spain afterward. We didn't hate China during the Boxer rebellion; after the rebellion was crushed and the indemnities established, we

simply said, "You keep it, and use it to train your boys and girls to have better ideals than that." What a testimony Madame Chiang Kai-Shek is giving to the world at the present time. Certainly, if any one would seem to have the right to hate anyone now, it would be the Chinese in regard to those who are treating them with such unparalleled cruelty. Yet Madame Chiang keeps on insisting that the Chinese MUST NOT let bitterness get into their souls.

"But Mr. Savage," some of you are saying, "your ideas are preposterous." Listen, it was also preposterous for Jesus, the Lord of creation, to go to the cross, but He was "crucified through weakness." Just because a lion finds it necessary to drive a skunk out of his den, he doesn't have to start smelling like a skunk in order to do it. The Irishman was once asked if he didn't hate bedbugs. He said, "Shure and Oi've got nothing against the little bastards; Oi only hates the way they make their livin'." And with that statement he settled his big thumb on the animal in question.

Allowing this philosophy of hate to increase in our thinking is, as I have stated before, tremendously dangerous to us. We need men at the coming peace table who will not be glaring across at the defeated enemy with eyes that are bleared with hate, but with eyes that can see clearly the demands of justice. I was talking with a truant officer just yesterday and there was honestly a real quaver in his voice when he said, "I had to lock up a fine young chap yesterday. It was too bad, but I just had to do it." You know what my reaction was to that statement? I knew that young fellow was guilty and was getting exactly what he deserved. There was no other alternative for the police officer.

This idea of hate is permeating our economic relationships. Too many of the controversies between capital and labor today are instigated by hate. In some cases, capital suspects and hates all the requests of labor, even when those demands may be perfectly just. In other cases, labor suspects and hates capital, regardless of the desire of many capitalists to be honest and fair-minded.

This idea of hate is getting into the hearts of many professed Christians. I picked up a book a couple of weeks ago listing 101 organizations formed for the express purpose of hating the Jews. The saddest thing about these organizations is that about half of them bear names that affiliate them with Christianity.

Oh how easy it is to become censorious and critical; how easy to let hate rule our relationships to others rather than a spirit of love. There are times when we must speak plainly; there are times when sin must be scathingly denounced; there are times when an uncompromising attitude must be taken against the apostasy of certain churches. But in the midst of these necessities, don't forget that Jesus died of a broken heart, and that broken heart is providing the final, the irrevocable basis for an eternal hell. The only place where eternal justice could be administered was from a cross, and the only place where human justice can be administered is from a broken heart. **VICTORY THROUGH WEAKNESS.**

"Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen." Ephesians 6:23, 24.

"Love with faith!"

This is an inseparable pair, each one futile if torn from the other. Love without faith is impotent. Faith without love is — nothing! (I Corinthians 13:2).

Somebody said "Oratory is logic on fire." That epithet is a charming little window through which to study the relationships between love and faith.

Faith is essentially a substance, it is a body of dependable evidence. But such commodities, alone, substance and evidence, if that's all we possess, would make the church no more attractive to the world than, — a lumber yard!

— Filled with the Spirit.

Salvation According to John the Baptist

(Continued from page one)

II. "Believe" Covers Whole Plan Of Salvation.

The second thing I want you to notice is that the only condition here, this condition on believing, covers everything God wants you to do in order to be saved. Now John the Baptist preached, "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Well, don't blame that on him. Every other preacher in the Bible did the same thing. Jesus used exactly the same words, "Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." And you remember that Jesus said in Luke 13:3-5, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." You remember that in Acts 17:30, Paul said, "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent." Oh, yes, we are saved by faith but when you honestly turn your heart to Jesus, depending on Him to forgive you, don't you see that repentance is included in the faith? How could your heart turn from sin without turning to Jesus and depending on Him? The whole thing has happened when you honestly trust in Him.

I was in Dubuque, Iowa, in the First Presbyterian Church about three years ago in revival services. A fine fellow seventeen years old came forward one night when I preached on "Believe." He came forward to trust the Saviour. It was the first time, it seemed, that it was ever made clear to him that you could trust Christ and have forgiveness. It was the first revival campaign in that church for more than thirteen years. He was wonderfully saved. A few nights later I preached on, "Ye must Be Born Again." When I gave the invitation, here he came again. He said, "Brother Rice, a few nights ago I trusted Jesus to save me. Now, I want to be born again." I said, "God bless you, when you trusted Christ you got all that God has. You got born again, you got your name written down in Heaven, you got your sins all forgiven! When you trusted Christ, that included everything else God intended you to do in the way of getting saved." I tell you, brother, when you put your trust in Jesus, you have it then. That is all God intends you to do. That settles that. There is more for you to do to please Him after you get saved but salvation is settled by believing. This word believe in this sense comprehends all the heart's coming to Christ in dependence and trust. When you trust Jesus Christ you have everlasting life. Praise the Lord for that. "Well," you say, "that is too good to be true." It does sound like it, doesn't it?

I remember a dear man in Texas at a funeral, an old man seventy-one years old, held his hand for prayer. After the benediction I went to speak to him. "Friend, you asked prayer. Are you not saved?" "Oh, no," he said. I said, "I guess you must be a backslider. Surely you have made a start some time." But he said "No, I never have." I said, "Man, listen, your hair is white. You haven't got long to fool around about this." He said, "I know it. I am seventy-one years old." I said, "Well, why aren't you saved?" He said, "I don't know how." "Well," I said, the Bible says to "believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." He began to weep. Tears ran down his face and down the grey stubble of his beard and he said, "Well, I have heard that before but I don't understand it, I don't know what you are talking about. I have heard that but I don't know what you mean." I began to pray, "Oh, God, make it clear to him so he will know how to believe." And suddenly it was on the tip of my tongue from the Spirit of God, I know, and I said, "That is easy. That means God furnishes the Saviour and all you have to do it to furnish the sinner." He began to chuckle and the tears still ran down his face as he laughed. As the light broke into his face he said, "I can certainly furnish the sinner if He will furnish the Saviour!"

And that is all you have to do, friends; risk God to do the saving. It is not by works of righteousness which we have done but according to His mercy He saved us. Don't you see it isn't by works lest any man should boast? When you trust in Jesus, He does it all.

III. Everlasting Life Already, God Says

Notice the third fact is when you trust in Him you have eternal life. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life." Isn't that wonderful language? Instead of putting it in old English, let's put it in the modern English, "He that trusts in the Son has everlasting life," already has it, brother. It is yours now when you put your trust in Jesus.

You say, "How will I know?" Well, if Jesus said it and if John said it and if Peter said it and if Paul said it and if every prophet in the Old Testament said it, wouldn't you take what they said about it?

I have heard people say, "Well now, Brother Rice, I was saved and I knew it all right because I was there when it happened." Yes, I know. I was there when I was born the first time, too, but I don't remember very much about it. The truth is I had very little education at that time! When I was born that day I didn't look up on the wall and say, "Hand me that calendar. I want to draw a ring around it. I see I was born December 11." I was there that day but I knew very little about what was taking place. I don't remember. Now how do I know that I was born December 11? Well, my good mother told me. She baked me a little cake and when I was four years old, I remember the four little candles on it and the pretty little cinnamon drops that decorated it. She put my initials on it. I know I was born December 11 because mother said so. Mother wrote it down in the family Bible, and I am going by what was written down. And that is the way I know about my second birth, too. I was there when it happened but I wasn't much of a theologian when it happened. The truth of the matter is, I was very young and inexperienced and no Bible scholar. So I am going by what is written down. God said I have everlasting life!

I was in Marquette Manor Baptist Church here in Chicago in November about four years ago in revival services. One night a young fellow came to find Christ. As I recall he was from Kentucky and down in Kentucky they believed in heart-felt religion. Well, that is not bad. I feel it in my own heart, too. But this young fellow said, "Brother Rice, I want to be saved. When my mother was saved she shouted and praised the Lord aloud. I want to get saved like my mother did." I said, "Never you mind how your mother got saved. You do it the Bible way and you will be all right." And so I called Brother Frank Sheriff who was in the service. I said, "You take this young fellow in the room there and show him from the Bible how to trust the Saviour and get it settled." They were gone until the service was over, perhaps thirty minutes or more, and almost everyone was gone. They came out and the young fellow's face had been covered with tears. His eyes were red with weeping. He came to shake hands with me and he said, "Brother Rice, I don't feel like I thought I would feel but the Bible says I am saved!"

And that is a mighty good way to know you are saved. If the Bible says it you can bank on God. John the Baptist said it, then the Holy Spirit of God had John the apostle write it down in the same words Jesus used again and again and said, "When you believe on Jesus Christ you have everlasting life, that you already have it." Say, that is wonderful! Praise the Lord then, I have it. If you ask me how good I am, how good I feel, how much good I do, I will have to take a back seat. But brother, I can say this, I know I have trusted Jesus. I know I did that and He said that I have everlasting life and I am risking what He said about it. "These things are written that ye may know," The Scripture says, and so I am going by what is written in the Word of God. I have passed out of death unto life. The Bible says so, that when I put my trust in Jesus and depended on Him and risked Him, then He made me a new creature and I am God's own child and my sins are forgiven, and I have everlasting life. I had

rather have that than all your bank accounts and all your stocks and all of your property and real estate. I've got it, brother! God said I have it — I have everlasting life.

IV. God's Anger On All Unbelievers

All right, here is another word and we hurry on. There is absolutely no salvation without it. If you haven't put your trust in Jesus, the anger of God is on you all the time. The wrath of God abideth on you.

That is a very unpopular topic. I know people talk about the meek and lowly Jesus but the Bible doesn't. The Lord Jesus loves people but there is as much in the Bible about the wrath of God against sin as there is about His love for people. God loves us. But in the same chapter where the Bible says that "God so loved the world," it says, "He that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." The anger of a holy indignation from God abides on you, lives on you, stays on you every moment of your life. You are under the curse of God because you are a Christ-rejecting, hard-hearted, sin-loving, Hell-deserving, Hell-bound sinner and God is angry with you and righteously angry with you. I tell you now, we ought to crack down on sin. Mothers and fathers ought to hate sin and teach their children to hate sin and that you can't get by with it, for you can't. God's anger stays on Christ-rejecting sinners.

Someone who hears me today, why don't you write and say, "Mr. Sheriff, tell Brother Rice today I put my trust in Jesus and he says I have everlasting life." Won't someone in this audience today say, "Well, if it is already paid for and if it is already free and if you can have it if you honestly in your heart, sincerely come to Jesus and trust Him and risk Him, depend on Him, surrender to Him, then I want it." Well, you surely can, my friends. There isn't but one reason in the world for sinners to go to Hell and that is that they do not turn their wicked hearts to Jesus Christ and love Him. That is all. And if you won't do that, the wrath of God abides on you and hell already has a cell, a place for you, eternally if you don't put your trust in Jesus. How wicked it is to turn Him down! Will you trust Him today?

Let us look carefully again to this precious verse of Scripture, John 3:36 which gives the gospel in the words of John the Baptist: "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." You can trust in Jesus Christ and have, at once, everlasting life! But if you have not trusted Jesus Christ to be your own Saviour, have not depended on Him for forgiveness and a new heart, then the anger of God, the wrath of God stays on you, abides on you continually! God is righteously angry with every Christ-rejecting sinner. Will you honestly, with penitent heart, turn to Christ and trust Him for salvation today? If you will, then why not sign the decision blank below. Then you may copy it, or write a letter in your own words, or clip out this decision blank if you like and send it to me. How glad I will be to hear from you! And I will write you a personal letter of instruction and help. But please do not sign unless with all your heart you mean today to trust Christ as your own personal Saviour.

My Decision for Christ

Evangelist John R. Rice, Editor
The Sword of The Lord
Wheaton, Illinois
Dear Brother Rice:

I have read your sermon on "Salvation According to John the Baptist." I believe what God says, that Christ died for my sins, that if I will accept Him and trust Him alone, he will forgive me and save me. I believe that when I honestly trust Him, He gives me everlasting life. Here and now, today, I do trust Him, and I write to let you know. I believe He forgives my sins and saves my soul. I will try to live for Him daily.

Date.....

Signed.....

Address.....